

1978

# ST. GEORGE Top Soccer



## ST. GEORGE v MARCONI

*Souvenir  
Programme*

**AUGUST 13.**

# WHERE TO SEE THE SAINTS?

AUG. 13 SAINTS v MARCONI  
 AUG. 27 SAINTS v WESTERN SUBURBS



**PHILIPS**

## Free Supporters Bus to St. George Soccer Stadium

- 12.15 Blairs Tyre Service — Cnr. Forest Rd. & Stoney Creek Rd. — Again at 1.15
- 12.20 Gannons Park — Cnr. Pindari Rd. & Isaac St. Peakhurst — Again at 1.20
- 12.25 Outside Masonic Club — Roberts Ave. Peakhurst — Again at 1.25
- 12.30 Soccer Club — 84 Victoria Ave. Mortdale — Again at 1.30 p.m.
- 12.40 Outside Woolworths — Forest Rd. Hurstville — Again at 1.40
- 12.45 Bexley — Outside Gilchrist's Pharmacy — Forest Rd. — Again at 1.45
- 12.50 Rockdale — Outside Chapman's Sport Store — Cnr. Frederick St. — Again at 1.50
- 12.55 Rockdale — Outside Rockdale Business Mens Club — Bay St. — Again at 1.55
- Last Stop Rockdale — Outside McCarthy Reserve — Bay St. — Approximate times so please be at bus stops early.

**Umbro International**



**ST. GEORGE B.S.C.**

v

**Marconi**  
at the new

**ST. GEORGE STADIUM**

SUNDAY AUGUST 13, 3.00 pm



**ST. GEORGE**

1	MARTIN COE
2	DOUG UTJESENOVIC
3	RALPH COATES
4	JOHN O'SHEA
5	GEORGE HARRIS (Capt.)
6	BRENDAN GROSSE
9	ROBERT O'SHEA
10	NEVILLE MORGAN
11	PHIL O'CONNOR
13	PETER TERRY
15	PAUL JONES
17	PETER HENSMAN
12	MIKE O'SHEA
19	EMERY HOLMIK
Res. G/K	K. Warner
COACH:	JOE VLASITS

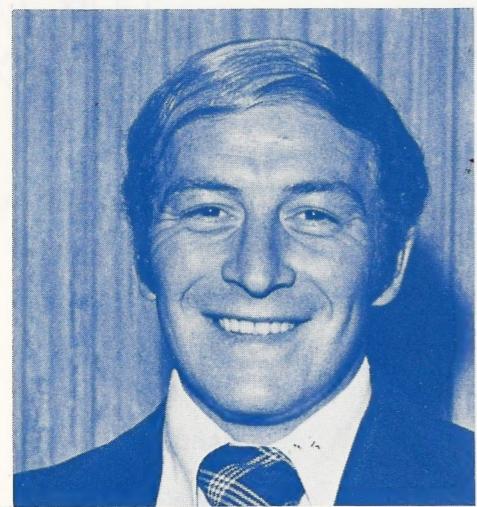
**MARCONI**

1	ALLEN MAHER
2	BARRY JONES
3	PAUL DEGNEY
4	JOHN RUSSELL
5	IVO PRSKALO
6	RAY RICHARDS
8	ROBERTO VIERI
9	JIM ROONEY (Capt.)
10	BERTI MARIANI
11	PETER SHARNE
13	STUART SELVAGE
14	MARK JANKOVICS
18	MICHAEL BERRY
19	PETER OLLERTON
20	FABIO FABRIANEAST
COACH:	RALE RASIC

Early game — Coco Cola Yough League Cup  
St. George Colts v Marconi Comets

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors today — the players, officials  
and supporters from Club Marconi

## COATES KEEN FOR RETURN



### THESE COACHES . . .

When, after the 1969 World Cup campaign, Joe Vlasits had to bow out following four years at the helm of the national team, he was followed, also for four years, by Zvonimir (Rale) Rasic. Today they will sit on the rival benches, two of the most colorful characters on the Australian coaching scene.

Vlasits coached St. George-Budapest to the 1962 NSW premiership. Years later, in 1971, Rasic took them to a Grand Final win over Western Suburbs.

But there are more common characteristic between them. In the late 1960s, when a senior coaching course was held at Sydney's North Ryde, under the guidance of Joe Vlasits, one of the star pupils was — Rasic.

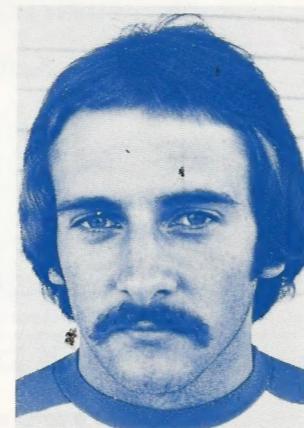
Vlasits came back to St. George this year — after a 16-year absence.

Will it be Rasic's turn in 1987?

## "PLAYER OF THE MATCH"

### JOHN O'SHEA

Is the winner of the Admiral-Sporting supplies' Player Award for his performance against Footscray (3-1).



If all goes well, Ralph Coates, the ex-England international star now on loan from Tottenham, will be back in Sydney after Christmas — and stay perhaps for good. Coates, 32, is without a doubt the most successful of the guest players the Saints have brought out so far. Unlike Francis Lee and then Charlie George, the quiet, polite Coates fitted in perfectly with the team, trains with them and is eager to make his contribution to the club's future successes.

By the end of September he must be back in London: that's his deal with Tottenham. Last season he played mainly with the reserves yet he is determined to fight his way back into the first team — even if only for a few months before migrating back to Sydney.

He knows he's got a major battle on his hand: Tottenham have just signed for a staggering sum two of Argentina's World Cup stars, midfielders Ardiles and Villa. And Ralph thinks it's a good thing . . .

"We need some cross fertilization in English soccer and I don't mean only the Scots and the Irish," he says. "I'm sure that Continental and South American players have a lot to offer, especially in skills. It's a big question how they will fit in — but isn't that the same problem everywhere?"

Coates is hopeful that by early next year he will be able to open a sports store of his own in Sydney.

"That's always been my ambition," he says. "If that can be fixed, I'll be back by January. I'm sure I can play for two more years for St. George. In fact, I think I'll play better next year when I can prepare for the season with the team, not just join them in a struggling position."

Beyond that, his future may be tied up with juniors.

"I'd like to become a coach of junior teams. I've seen so many talents in the St. George area, I'm sure several of them can be developed into stardom."

"I am happy to have had the opportunity of playing in a team coached by 'Uncle' Joe Vlasits, a wise and highly experienced man."

"I have no doubt that it was largely his special touch that dislodged us from the bottom of the table."

"But I'd like to believe that I also played a small part in it!"

And most fans will agree with that.

## Marconi: Comets on Sydney Sky

Like it or not, Marconi have been the most consistent team in the brief history of the Philips League. In 1977 they missed the championship title by a slender goal difference and lost the Philips Cup final on penalties, after extra time. This season they are still in the title hunt though perhaps their chances, after an abysmal collapse, seem somewhat remote.

Marconi's big build-up in 1969 paid off: they won the second division NSW championship by four points from Bankstown.

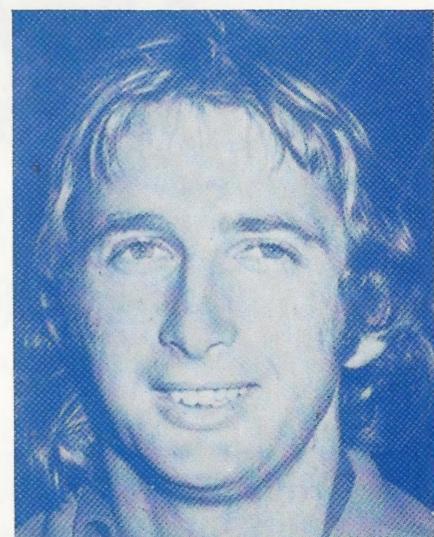
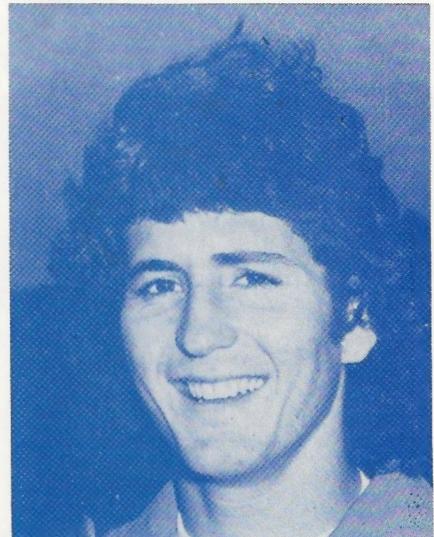
As a matter of interest, this was their team which, in the penultimate round of 1969, whacked Artarmon 15-1.

Earl, Seni, Nuttall, Murua, Taylor, Scheinflug, Edmunds, Doyanovits, Richards, Giacometti, Jones. Then, in the last round, after week-long celebrations, they went down 1-5 to Balgownie — but the promotion was theirs. They fared even worse in the second division play-off series: with defeats against Bankstown and Wests, they were eliminated after only two rounds.

In some ways, critics were right in claiming that Marconi "bought" their way into the first division — but this, of course, is not new in Australian soccer. They acquired internationals Scheinflug, Richards and Giacometti as well as other first division casts-off such as Earl, Nuttall, Murua, Barry Taylor, and the ex-Hakoah wingers Edmunds and Jones.

Since 1970, however, they have seldom looked back. While trophies and titles have, on the whole, eluded them, Marconi have been among the Sydney elite; since 1977 the very cream.

Of their present first team, Berti Mariani and Peter Sharne are "home products" though Paul Degney has also matured at Marconi. Last season's big signings included Russell, Rooney and Vieri while this year it was Jankovics and Ollerton for whom they had to splash some cash. Meanwhile, they lost tadatayoneoofthebiggestyoungstarsofthemall, Colusso, another home-grown talent.



### Saints Have Upper Hand

St. George go into today's battle against Marconi with a positive all-round record against the Bossley Parkers: the Saints have won almost half their total matches so far.

However, since the start of the Philips League in 1977, St. George has not been able to beat their rivals. Perhaps now . . .

This chart shows all their past records — from the view-point of St. George.

### ST. GEORGE v MARCONI

	P	W	D	L	F	A
NSW premierships	14	8	2	4	28	15
NSW finals	2	1	—	1	3	3
NSW Ampol Cup	2	1	1	—	3	2
State Cup	1	1	—	—	3	2
Interstate finals ('72)	1	—	—	1	—	1
Philips League	3	—	1	2	2	5
	23	11	4	8	39	28



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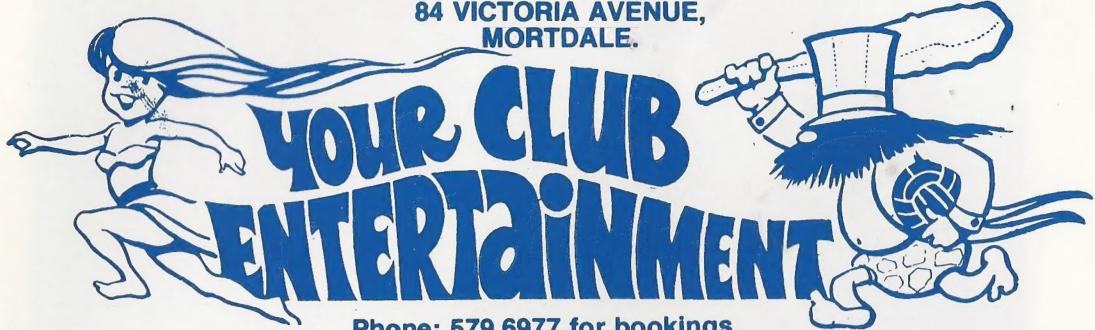
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